

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-21 are canceled herein and new claims 22-36 are added. Applicants submit that the new claims provide additional clarity and, consequently, respectfully request consideration of these new claims.

Support for the new claims is found throughout the specification as originally filed. For example, support can be found on pages 19-23 and Figures 4 and 5.

Applicants submit that the claims, as clarified, are distinguishable over the applied references. For example, claim 22 recites “mapping a convention-defined vertex parameter with an application-defined identifier.” The applied references do not teach, suggest or render obvious such a step. Similarly, claim 22 recites “retrieving the vertex data associated with the convention-defined vertex parameter by calling the application-defined identifier.” Again, the applied references do not teach, suggest or render obvious such a step.

The above examples illustrate some of the novel and non-obvious elements of the new claims. This list of examples, however, is not exhaustive, and several other independent grounds for allowance can be found in the claims. Regarding the drawing, Applicants submit that Figure 1 does not merely illustrate what is known and, as such, should not be labeled as “prior art.”

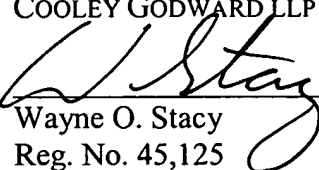
*The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-3117.*

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